

May 13, 2022



Senator Charlie Scott
Representative Jerry Paxton
Joint Education Interim Legislative Committee

Dear Co-Chairmen,

On the topic of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs, Funding, and Expenditures, the Wyoming Association for Career and Technical Education have been asked to offer input about District Implementation and Program Offerings. We see two important issues:

1. Discrepancy between funding model and actual CTE expenditures
2. Increasingly large class sizes in technical education courses

According to the Continued Review of Educational Resources in Wyoming (CRERW) report prepared for the Joint Education Interim Committee (September 2019), districts are using 62.2 percent of funding model suggestions - a \$1,092,254 shortfall. While this discrepancy may be partially due to reporting errors, a survey of our membership found statistically consistent results. The average annual budget for CTE materials and equipment in our sample was \$5,750, according to 25 percent of our membership. The legislative model suggests an amount equal to \$10,315.40 per vocational education teacher FTEs.

Under current law, the rationale of the 29 percent weight of grade 9-12 CTE student FTEs (CTE student FTEs x 0.29 divided by secondary school class size of 21) is to provide additional teachers to ensure that CTE courses have a smaller class sizes than 21, if necessary, or allocate additional CTE teachers. The current shortage of CTE teachers in the state is exacerbating the problem and leading to larger class sizes. A high student-to-teacher ratio in CTE courses is problematic due to limited equipment, space and resources.

We look forward to presenting more information about these points on June 1, 2022. Should anyone have questions for me, I can be reached at 307-277-3670 or via email at robhill31@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Rob Hill
Public Policy Chairman

The mission of the **Wyoming Association for Career and Technical Education** is to provide educational leadership in developing a competitive workforce through professional development and advocacy. The association represents more than 260 educators at high schools and community colleges across Wyoming with 32,000 students in career and technical education. Members connect with business and industry partners to gain an important perspective and validate CTE programs.